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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/597,370	06/19/2000	Yatin R. Acharya	E0877	3844

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Jonathan A Platt  
Renner Otto Boisselle & Sklar LLP  
1621 Euclid Avenue  
19th Floor  
Cleveland, OH 44115

EXAMINER

TRAN, PHUC H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2666

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DATE MAILED: 04/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/597,370

Applicant(s)

ACHARYA ET AL.

Examiner

PHUC H TRAN

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8, 11-14 and 16-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 9, 10, 15, 19 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: “the test device” in lines 4-5 is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 2-4 is objected to because of the following informalities: “the information” in line 2 is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 4 is objected to because of the following informalities: “of the” in line 2 should be deleted. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 9-10 is objected to because of the following informalities: “the data bus” in lines 1-2 is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim 12 is objected to because of the following informalities: “the tester” in line 4 is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an

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international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

3. Claims 1-8, 11-14, & 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sambamurthy et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6108713).

- With respect to claims 1, 4, 12, 13, & 16, Sambamurthy teaches a method of testing a network device (the MAC for transferring data along a computer network with control information comprising: sending control information from a tester to the network device via data bus of a media independent interface (col. 38, lines 38-41, Fig. 2, Fig. 4) at a data rate greater than 2.5 Mb/sec (col. 1, lines 55-57);

and using the control information to write to and/or read (at Tx and Rx in Fig. 2) from registers (block 126 in Fig. 2) of the test device.

- With respect to claims 2-3, & 17-18, Sambamurthy also teaches wherein the sending the control information includes sending the information at least 10/100 Mb/sec (col. 1, lines 55-57).

- With respect to claims 5-7, Sambamurthy discloses wherein the sending information via the data bus includes sending the information in frames, which has preamble, DA, SA, LT LLC and CRC (Fig. 5A).

- With respect to claim 8, Sambamurthy teaches wherein the using the information includes extracting the control information from the frames in the network device (e.g. Fig. 10 of receiving data flow).

- With respect to claim 11, Sambamurthy discloses wherein the control information includes information in the form of register addresses and register contents (block 126 in Fig. 2).

- With respect to claim 14, Sambamurthy further comprises evaluating the network device using the information from the network device passed to the tester (col. 12, lines 10-12).

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*Allowable Subject Matter*

4. Claims 9-10, 15 & 19-20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

*Conclusion*

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO form 892.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHUC H TRAN whose telephone number is (703) 308-7471. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, RAO SEEMA can be reached on (703) 308-5463. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Phuc Tran  
Assistant Examiner  
Art Unit 2664

P.t  
4/1/2004



DANG TON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER